Text books.

153. * **Mr. A. N. Satyanesan :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have received complaints that text books had not been got ready at the Government Press in time for the re-opening of schools ;

(*b*) if so, the reasons for the delay ; and

(*c*) the measures adopted to safeguard against such delays in future ?

Dr H. Parameswaran (*Controller of Stationery and Printing*) : (*a*) No.

(*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

Food production.

154. * **Mr. A. N. Satyanesan :** Will the Government be pleased to state the measures adopted by the Agricultural Department to increase food production in view of the war and the consequent scarcity of foodgrains ?

Mr. K. R. Narayanan Aiyar (*Additional Secretary to Government and Director of Food Supplies*) : (i) Opening of departmental manure depots and stocking of artifical fertilisers for sale to ryots at cost price and on crop loan basis.

(ii) Manufacture of compost manure with town refuse and night-soil and leaf mould obtained from Reserved Forest areas for augmenting the local production of manures.

(iii) Conversion of single crop paddy lands in North Travancore into double crop lands under Lift Irrigation Scheme.

(iv) Insistence on the annual cultivation of kayal and other reclamations.

(v) Cultivation of vegetables on water free areas in the irrigation tanks.

(vi) Arranging for the supply of iron and steel for the manufacture of agricultural implements.

(vii) Conduct of cultural demonstrations on ryots' lands for convincing them of the need for using better manures, better seed and better implements for increasing the yield of paddy.

(viii) Carrying on vigorous propaganda by the Officers of the Department for putting every bit of available land under food crops.

(ix) Leasing out suitable wet and dry lands available in reserved forests.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan : കാർഷികമായി ഏതെങ്കിലും സഹായമെങ്കിലും നടത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

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